

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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PRICE 1/3

All Baba and the Forty Thieves
on page 18



SNOW-WHITE and the Seven Dwarfs



1. In the evening, on their way home from their gold-mine in the mountains, the seven happy dwarfs stopped to pick bunches of lovely flowers. "Ho-hum!" said one. "We have never done this before—but, of course, we have never had anyone so sweet and lovely as Snow White living in our little cottage."

2. What the dwarfs did not know was that the wicked Queen had visited the cottage. Disguised as a poor old pedlar woman she had sold Snow White a pretty belt, which she then tugged so tightly round her waist that poor Snow White fell to the floor in a faint and seemed likely to die, not being able to breathe.



3. Luckily, the dwarfs were just in time. They unbuckled the belt and helped Snow White to her feet, so that she very quickly revived. "You must be on your guard in future, Snow White," they told her. "Do not let any strangers into the cottage."



4. Meanwhile, the Queen was back in the Palace and she hurried to the magic mirror. "O Queen, I bring you gloomy news; your plan went wrong so now you lose," it told her. "The fairest one is still Snow White—she's still alive and quite all right."



5. At this the Queen flew into a rage and shook her fist in anger at the mirror. "You may well be speaking the truth, as you always do," she said, "But before long you will be telling me that Snow White, my step-daughter, is dead and no longer the fairest in the land." Once again she put on an old robe and went over the seven mountains to where the seven dwarfs lived.

6. Her black cat followed at her heels and mewed in surprise as the Queen took from her basket a pretty comb. "You may well ask what this is, puss," chuckled the Queen. "No girl will be able to resist using it on her hair—but it is a magic comb with a powerful poison in its teeth. When Snow White pulls it through her hair, she will fall down and die."



7. This time, when there was a knock on the door, Snow White was careful to open it only a little. "I am sorry, pedlar woman, I cannot invite you in," she said. The Queen smiled and showed her the pretty comb. "I'm only asking you to try this," she said. "You have such lovely black hair."



8. Snow White was tempted. Taking the comb, she shut the door and started to comb her hair. At the very first stroke she felt a strange shock and fell to the floor. The wicked Queen, peering through the window, chuckled at the sight. "This time, Snow White, I am rid of you forever," she said.



1. Swallow-tail. All butterflies, like moths, pass through three stages of growth and change before they reach perfect shape. These stages are (a) egg, (b) caterpillar, (c) chrysalis, and (d) butterfly. The picture shows a Swallow-tail with its caterpillar and chrysalis.



2. Large White. It is often called a Cabbage White, because its eggs are laid on cabbage plants, on which the caterpillar feeds. The caterpillars are so greedy and eat so much of the leaves that this butterfly, which breeds in large numbers, is not popular with farmers. They think it is a pest.



These are our "Allsorts" pages. Every week you can see all sorts of Allsorts. **THIS WEEK:**

All Sorts



5. Bhutan Glory and Dragontail. As well as having bright colours, butterflies sometimes have strange shapes. Just look at the Bhutan Glory and Dragontail shown above. Don't you think they are lovely?



6. The Rajah Brooks Birdwing. Some butterflies like to live high up in the trees. Others, like the Rajah Brooks Birdwing, shown in the picture above, prefer to live close to the ground. They feed on decaying leaves and other matter on the forest floor of hot countries.



3. **Comma Butterfly.** If you look carefully you will see why it has been given the name of Comma butterfly. When it is at rest with its wings together, it shows a comma-like mark in the middle of the rear wing. You will see this kind of butterfly on nettle plants, for this is the food it likes best.



4. **Agrias Butterfly.** So many butterflies are marked with lovely, brilliant colours that they have often been called the living jewels of the insect world. This butterfly, one of the most brightly coloured, has a long name, *agrias sardanapalus*, but you may as well call it *Agrias* for short. It comes from the River Amazon area in the continent of South America.

of Butterflies



7. **The Little Blue.** Here we have one of the smallest of all butterflies. With its wings fully spread the Little Blue butterfly only measures about half an inch across. To give you a good idea of its tiny size our artist has drawn it on the finger of a man's hand. It almost looks like a pretty ring.



8. **African Swallow-tail.** After looking at the tiny Little Blue, we now come to one of the largest of all butterflies, called the African Swallow-tail. It lives in the forests of West and Central Africa. The male butterfly is about nine inches across from the tip of one wing to the other. It really is a most striking butterfly.



BRER RABBIT

This week . . . the story of the magic stewpot. By Barbara Hayes.

NOW one summer there was great fun and excitement in the land where the animals lived. A fair came to town. There were swingboats and roundabouts and coconut shies. My, what fun all the animals had, especially Brer Rabbit.

But when it came towards dinner time, Brer Rabbit started to feel hungry, so he set off *lickety-clipping* up the road towards home.

But, unfortunately, Brer Rabbit was not the only one to feel hungry.

Brer Fox was feeling hungry too.

Lickety-clip! Lickety-clip! Along the road went Brer Rabbit, until suddenly—WHUMP! GASP! SQUEAL!

Brer Fox jumped down out of a tree, landed on Brer Rabbit and grabbed him tight.

"Howdy!" said Brer Rabbit, as soon as he had got his breath back.

"Howdy!" said Brer Fox, showing his teeth in a great big grin. "Where are you off to, Brer Rabbit?"

"Why, just on my way home to dinner, Brer Fox, just on my way home to dinner," said Brer Rabbit.

"Well, don't bother to go all the way to your place, Brer Rabbit, come to my

thing I should like to do before I am turned into rabbit stew is to buy you a fine new stewpot from the tinker at the fair."

"Gosh, Brer Rabbit, that is mighty generous of you," said Brer Fox, who was so greedy that he couldn't bear to miss the chance of getting a new stewpot.

So back to the fair the two animals went, with Brer Fox keeping tight hold of Brer Rabbit so that he couldn't run away.

When they reached the tinker, Brer Rabbit said, "I want to buy the biggest, best stewpot for my good friend here."

and when you look into it, you can see wonderful pictures of fairyland."

"Get out at once, Brer Rabbit, and let me get in and look," ordered Brer Fox.

"No, no, Brer Fox, I want to stay here and go on looking at the lovely pictures."

"Brer Rabbit! Get out at once! I order you," snorted Brer Fox.

"No, No. Let me go on looking at the pictures," begged Brer Rabbit.

In the end Brer Fox reached in and pulled Brer Rabbit out and flung him aside. Then he jumped into the stewpot himself and bent down and stared and stared at the bottom of the pot.

But as you will have guessed, it didn't shine like silver and there were no magic



place, it's much nearer," Brer Fox grinned worse than ever, and licked his greedy lips.

Brer Rabbit thought mighty hard and mighty fast, because he knew that Brer Fox was planning to turn him into rabbit stew.

Then Brer Rabbit said: "You've been to the fair, have you, Brer Fox?"

"That I have."

"And did you see the tinker there selling lovely new pots and pans?"

"That I did."

"Well, if you don't mind my saying so, Brer Fox, your stewpot at home is getting rather old."

"That it is."

"Well, Brer Fox, I know I've played some mighty mean tricks on you in the past, so to make up for them, the last

So the tinker fetched out his biggest pot.

"Before we buy it, I had just better make sure that I fit into it well," smiled Brer Rabbit. "You don't want to get it home, Brer Fox, and find that it is too small for me."

So into the stewpot jumped Brer Rabbit and scrambled around inside saying, "Wonderful! Marvellous! Who would have thought it?"

In the end, Brer Fox called out, "What is going on in there? What is so wonderful?"

And Brer Rabbit popped his head out and said, "Why, this is a magic stewpot. The bottom shines like silver on the inside

pictures. As a matter of fact the only kind of picture Brer Fox could see was a reflection of himself in the shiny bottom of the brand new stewpot.

Being much bigger than Brer Rabbit, he found it a little difficult to turn around, but he wriggled this way and that, twisted his head on one side and then the other—but still saw no magic fairyland pictures. After a while he got quite cross.

"Where are the pictures, Brer Rabbit?" called Brer Fox.

But, of course, there was no answer, either.

Brer Rabbit had thrown up his heels and gone *lickety-clipping* home and Brer Fox felt mighty foolish, I can tell you.

There will be another Brer Rabbit story next week.

Prickly Things... not to be touched!



1. **Monkey-puzzle Tree.** Another name for this tree is the Chile Pine. As you can see, it is a mass of prickly branches. No boy or girl could climb up it, and even the cleverest monkey would be puzzled to avoid scratches.



2. **Spiny Ant-eater.** Only in Australia and countries nearby will you find the Echidna, or spiny ant-eater. Look at its prickles and long nose.



3. **Porcupine.** It was once thought that porcupines shot out their quills like arrows at attackers, but it is not true. They can run backwards, and push their spikes into enemies.



4. **Tree Porcupine.** Not so attractive as the Crested Porcupine shown above, the Tree Porcupine is found in South America. Its spines are shorter, but it has a longer tail and feet which are specially shaped for gripping branches of trees.



5. **Globe Fish.** When first seen it looks a fairly ordinary fish in shape, but when there are enemies around it "puffs" itself up like a balloon all covered in spikes. No other fish would want to swallow it, so it is left alone.

Well, Fancy That!



Once upon a time, wolves roamed in their hundreds across Britain and were a great danger to people living near forests. The last wolf seen in Britain was in the year 1792. The wolf is a very clever and fierce animal and is still seen in some countries of Europe and also in Russia.



Do you know that sandwiches are named after John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich? He lived 200 years ago and once spent a whole day and night playing cards and for meals he asked for beef between slices of bread.



Every country has its own quaint wedding customs. In Britain we tie old boots behind the newly-weds' car and throw confetti. In Cyprus, friends pin money on the bride and groom as they dance at the wedding feast.

This is a Memory Test. When you have read the story, turn to page 16 and try to answer the questions you will find there.

Horseless Carriages

DO you remember that two weeks ago we told you about the first bicycles, which began when someone invented a two-wheeled machine called a hobby-horse? Soon people started to use bicycles for going to work. They were much easier for getting around than horses and carriages and far cheaper, for, unlike horses, bicycles did not have to have any food.

It was not long before inventors put their brains to work to make a carriage which would run without horses. It was towards the end of Victorian times, less than a hundred years ago, that the first petrol-driven motor-car was made.

At first nobody thought much of these "horseless carriages". They thought they were noisy and did not like the smell of the fumes that came from them. The noise they made certainly frightened the horses on the roads.

The early motor-cars were very slow, and in any case they were not allowed to travel at more than four miles an hour on the roads by law. However, they got better and in 1896 a new law was passed to allow motor-cars to travel at fourteen miles an hour.

More and more cars appeared on the roads of Britain and in 1902 the speed limit was raised to twenty miles an hour.

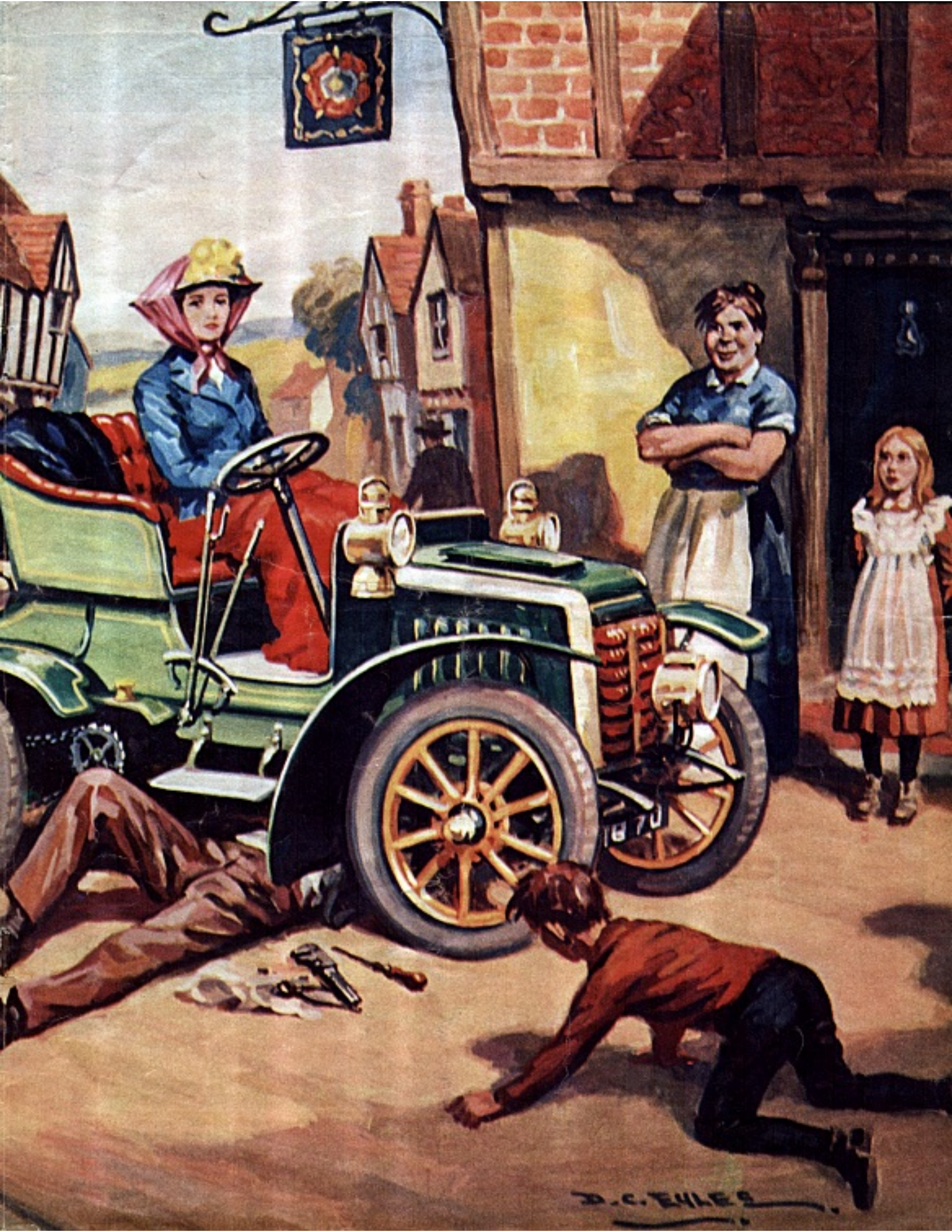
The car shown in the picture is a 1902 Panhard-Levassor and could do twenty miles an hour—except when it broke down, which is just what has happened in the main street of a small town.

In those days there were no garages, so all the poor driver could do was to get out of the car and get under it and play around with spanners and screwdrivers in the hope of putting it right.

This, of course, has attracted a crowd of onlookers, who are very amused by the antics of the driver.

The poor lady passenger tries to look as unconcerned as she can, but motoring in those days could bring some awkward and embarrassing moments!





D.C. EYLES

The Dandelion Fairy



1. The dandelion fairies were very worried. They had been living happily in the Palace gardens until the King's gardener saw them and chased them away. "Shoo!" he shouted. "Keep out of this garden." "We must find somewhere else," sighed the fairies.



2. One of them happened to float through the window of Princess Flavia, who had been ill and whom the Court doctor could not seem to cure. "If only the Princess would go out and play in the fresh air, she would soon get better," everybody said.



3. The dandelion fairy, seeing how pale and sad Flavia was, forgot her own troubles. "I'll dance for the Princess," she thought. She began to dance in the sunlit air. Flavia clapped her hands and laughed for the first time in many weeks. "Oh, what a lovely and friendly little creature you are," she said.



4. The more the dandelion fairy danced and twisted in the air the more the Princess laughed and clapped. At last, tired out but happy, Flavia fell asleep and the fairy floated gently to rest on the pillow beside her. "What a happy new friend I have found—much nicer than that gardener," she said.



5. While the Princess was sleeping, a maid came into the room and saw the dandelion fairy. "We don't want such things in here, floating around and making the Palace untidy," she said, sweeping it out with her broom. "Be off with you at once."



6. When Princess Flavia woke up her new friend was gone. "I must find her," she said. "Where can she be?" She searched the room but there was no sign of the little fairy. Anxiously the Princess hurried out to search the gardens of the Palace.



7. At first she found no trace of the dandelion fairy. Just as she was giving up hope she came to a neglected corner of the garden. It was there that the dandelion fairies had hidden themselves. The Princess laughed in sudden joy.



8. The King and Queen and Royal doctor were searching for her. "I'm sure that something has happened to her," said the Queen. Something HAD happened and from that day the Princess became well and spent all her time playing with the dandelion fairies.



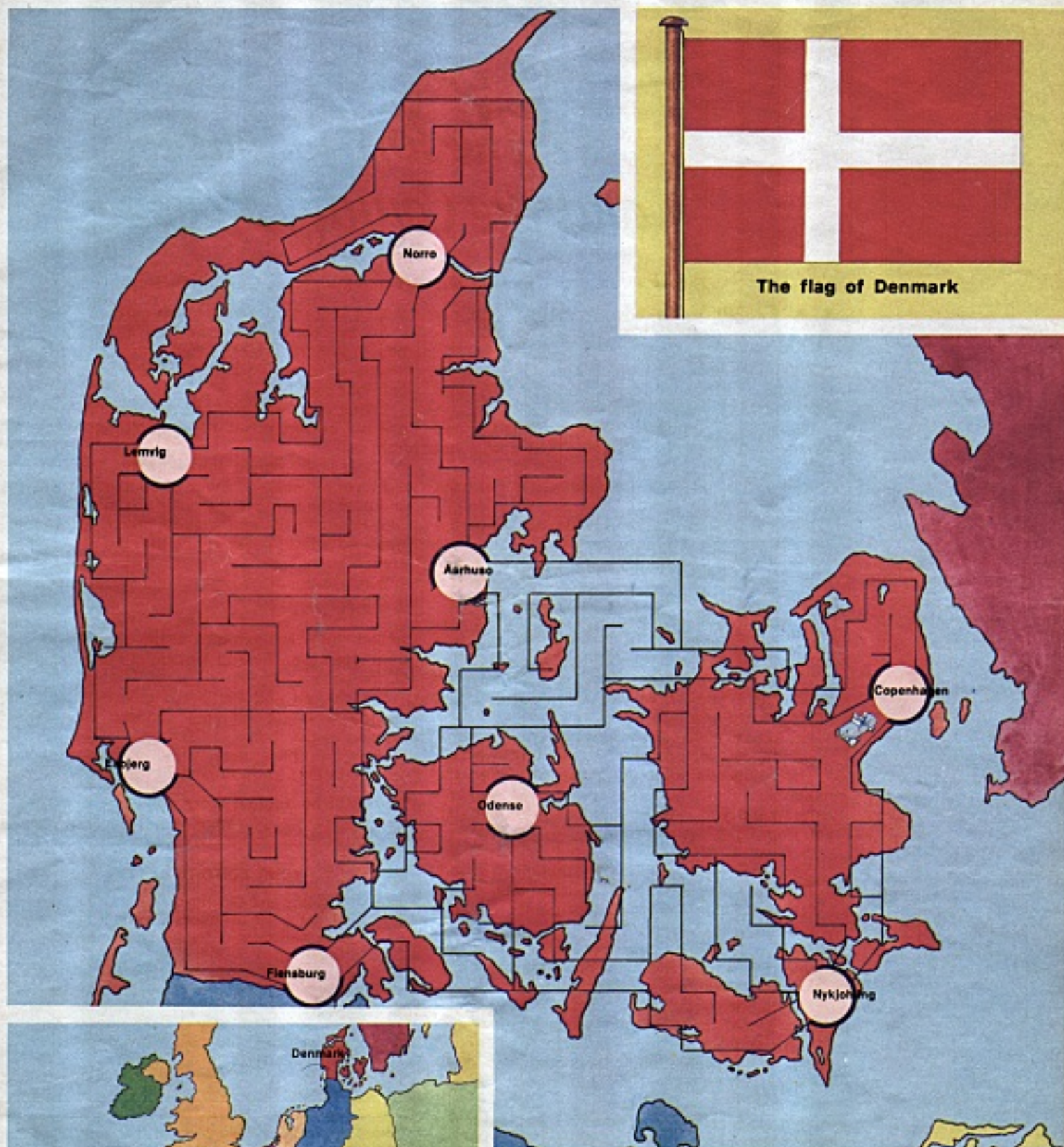
Beautiful Pictures

These happy children on holiday in Cornwall have found the right time to visit a rock pool at low tide. The waves of the sea, which came swirling through the gap in the rocks, have gone back and have left behind a deep, clear pool of water. It is so peaceful without a ripple of movement on the surface that it is as good as a giant mirror. You can see the perfect reflections of the rowing boat, the rocks and the children themselves. It is great fun to sit and look into pools like these, looking for signs of life. If the bottom of

the pool is sandy, you will see shrimps. But you will have to look hard because Nature has given shrimps a special colour which "hides" them when they rest flat on the sand. If there is no sand, you will probably see small fish, a crab or two, or even a lobster moving among the rocks. One word of warning, however . . . these lovely clear pools are often much deeper than they seem.

(Reproduced from a print of "The Cornish Rock Pool" supplied by the Pallas Gallery, London.)

Denmark the Dairy Country



The flag of Denmark



Denmark's place in the map of Europe

The country of Denmark is made up of the peninsula of Jutland and a group of nearby islands. (A peninsula is a piece of land which juts out into the sea.) It is a rich and pleasant land, famous for butter, bacon and eggs. Without crossing a line, see if you can find your way by car from the capital city, Copenhagen, to Aarhus, Aalborg, Lemvig, Esbjerg, Flensburg, Odense, Nykøbing and back again.



The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

This week the country mouse arrives home from Paris. By Barbara Hayes

WINIFRED, the country mouse, and her boy-friend, Bertie, had just been on a holiday to Paris.

It had all been thrilling and exciting and interesting, but to tell the truth, Bertie and Winifred were really very glad to be home again.

"East, west, home's best," Winifred had sighed as she had drunk her first cup of tea from her own teapot.

And Bertie had been quite pleased to get back to his work on the farm.

Walking up and down the fields, pulling up the weeds, seemed more homely and safe than gadding round Paris looking at all the big strange buildings.

It wasn't until Winifred went out to do her shopping that she realised that something was wrong.

"Good morning, Mrs. Fuzz," she said to the policeman's wife. "How did you like the picture postcard of Paris that I sent you?"

"I haven't received it yet," said Mrs. Fuzz.

"Goodness, the post is slow," thought Winifred.

Then Winifred went in to see Mr. Bunn the baker.

"How did you like the picture postcard I sent you from Paris?" she asked.

"I haven't received it yet," replied Mr. Bunn.

"Goodness, the post is slow," thought Winifred.

Then she saw Mrs. Hank from the wool shop. "How did you like the picture postcard I sent you from Paris?" asked Winifred.

And when Mrs. Hank replied, "I haven't received it yet," a dreadful little idea started to grow inside Winifred's little furry head.

She suddenly thought, "I wonder if I remembered to post those picture postcards after all?"

You see, while Winifred and Bertie had been in Paris, all the rich French food had upset their tummies and for a few days, they hadn't felt very well.

"I started feeling ill on the day I was supposed to post the cards," thought Winifred. "I wonder if in all the fuss, I just forgot?"

Winifred turned to dash home and bumped straight into Bertie.

"I say, our Winnie," he said, "no one seems to have had the cards we sent them. I'm going to have a word with Postman Badger."

"Don't do that," gasped Winifred. "I have a

feeling that I forgot to post the cards."

So the two mice rushed back to Winifred's house. Winifred went to her suitcase and there, inside, were all the cards, written and stamped, but not posted.

"What shall we do?" gasped Winifred. "Everyone will be very upset if they don't get any cards from us."

"Do? Do?" smiled Bertie. "Why, Winnie, my old love, we will post them, of course. We will go and post the cards in the pillar box at the corner. Old Postman Badger's eyes aren't what they were, so he will never notice that the stamps are French stamps."

Winifred chuckled and thought that this was a bright idea.

"And when all our chums get the cards," she smiled, "they will just look at the pictures on the front and never think of looking at the postmarks on the back."

So Winifred and Bertie did post the cards at the corner—and all their chums were very pleased to get them.

"Now we have seen pictures of Paris, we needn't bother to go ourselves," they said.

There will be another story about the mice next week.

YOUR EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Boy and Girl Readers,

I get a lot of letters from you each week and most of them say how much "Once Upon A Time" is enjoyed. Of course, this makes me very delighted, but I have sometimes wondered what is liked BEST and what is liked LEAST. You see, I can only get the answer if you write and tell me, so do you think you could help and let me know?

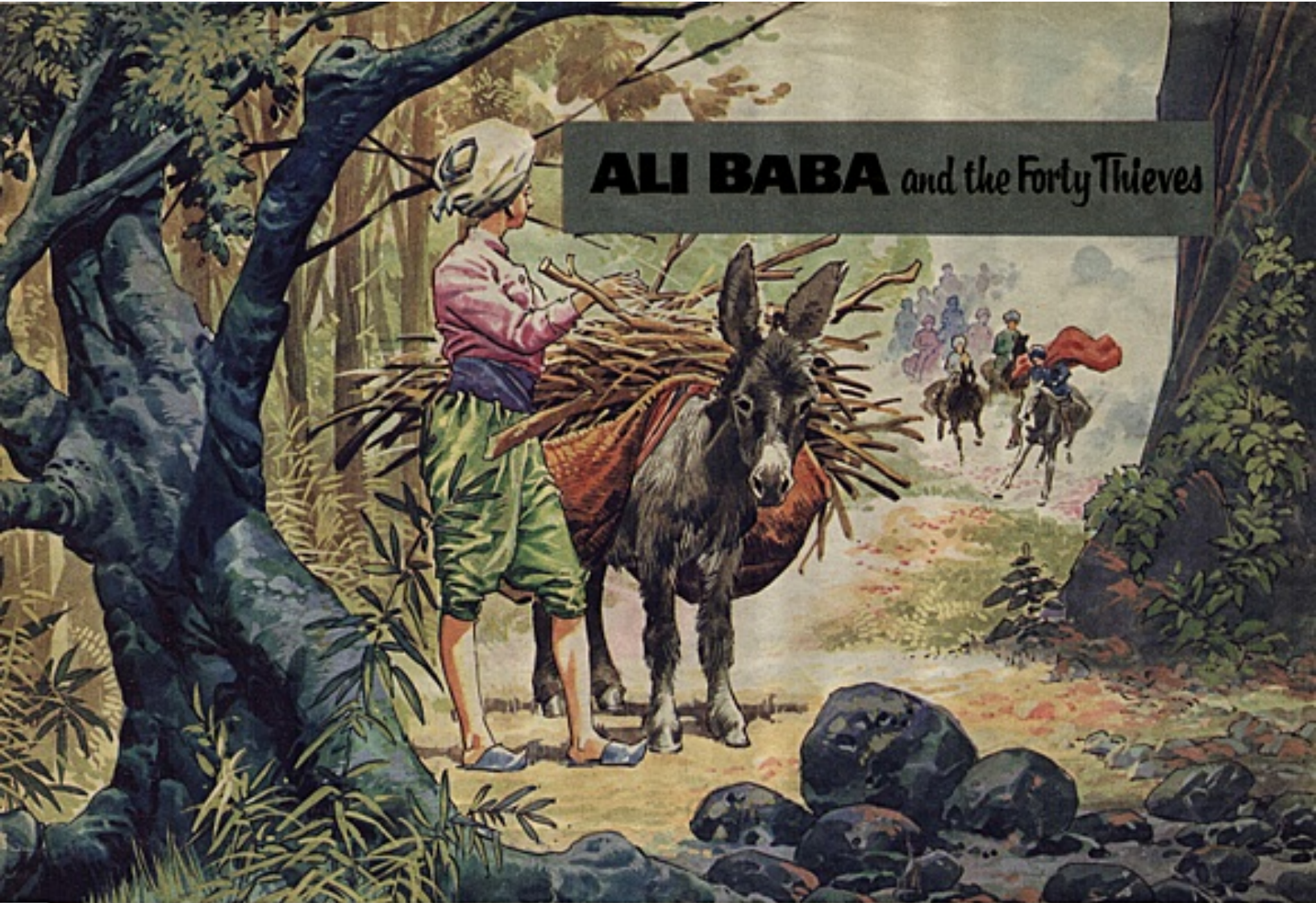
Your friend, The Editor.

Here are some questions about the story "Horseless Carriages" on page 10. See how well you read and remembered the story.

1. At what speed were the first cars allowed to travel?
2. When was a law passed which let them travel at a speed of fourteen miles an hour?
3. What was the make of the car shown in the picture?



ALI BABA and the Forty Thieves



1. In a certain town of Persia there once lived a woodcutter whose name was Ali Baba. Although they were very poor Ali Baba and his wife were happy together and each morning Ali Baba set off with his donkey to the forest to gather wood to sell.

2. One day when he reached the forest Ali Baba saw a cloud of dust rising high into the air. As he watched he realised the dust was made by a company of horsemen who were galloping towards him. "Could they be robbers?" he wondered.



3. Ali Baba was a brave man, but for safety he climbed a tree and watched as the horsemen halted close to where he was hidden.



4. The forty horsemen were indeed robbers. From their saddles they took bags of gold and followed their leader to a huge rock.



5. The robber leader was big and strong, with a cruel-looking face. Hardly daring to breathe Ali Baba watched him as he faced the great rock and said in a commanding voice: "Open, Sesame!" No sooner had he spoken than a startling thing happened. Part of the rock opened and swung inwards like a huge door.



6. One by one the forty thieves passed through the open door and into a deep cave in the rock. The last to enter was the leader and as soon as he was inside the door closed behind him. After it had closed no one could have told that it existed, for the rock appeared to be completely solid again.



7. At last the robbers came out and the chief said to the rock: "Shut, Sesame!" The door closed tight and the robbers rode away.



8. After a while, Ali Baba went to the great rock and uttered the words: "Open, Sesame!" At once the door in the rock flew open!

Will Ali Baba dare to enter? You will find out in next week's "Once Upon A Time".



The **WISE OLD OWL**

Knows all the answers



Many questions are often asked. Have any of these been puzzling you lately?

1. What is a mountain spring?

"Much of the rain that falls soaks away into the soft earth. This water gathers in the rocks beneath the ground and sometimes flows out again as a fresh, bubbling spring, or tiny river. This often happens on the side of a hill or mountain. Most big rivers begin their life as small springs."



2. How does an overcoat keep us warm?

"An overcoat does not keep you warm in the way that a fire does. But it keeps you warm in two different ways. Your body makes its own heat all the time. An overcoat, and your other clothes, keep this heat close to your body, so you feel warm. A coat also stops cold wind from taking away your body heat."



3. Why does a spider spin a web?

"A spider's web is really a net which the spider has made to catch its food. The web is very strong and its silvery strands are sticky, so that when a fly buzzes into the net it gets stuck. Then the spider, which can climb about the web without getting stuck, rushes to the spot and collects the fly to eat it."



4. Does a mushroom grow overnight?

"Yes. Mushrooms grow very quickly. They start from tiny hair-like roots in the ground. If conditions are right, when it is not too hot or too dry, the mushrooms will grow very rapidly."



5. Do fish breathe?

"Even though we cannot see them, there are lots of tiny bubbles of air in water. Fish breathe by sucking in water through their mouths and passing it through their gills, which take out the air."